



# West Word

Paisley West Church, Quarterly Newsletter  
February 2025 Edition

## Paisley West Church

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## A message from our Minister

One of our tasks in the aims and objectives from our meeting of the congregation with the TSG reps is to work on improving communication at Paisley West.

A small group met to think how we might begin doing this and one of the suggestions was to re-introduce the church magazine. With some hard work this edition goes out as we look towards our communion service on the first Sunday in March.

The Kirk Session hope you find this helpful; we know that for some folk there is no substitute for having information on paper in your hand.

We are also updating our website and have already begun increasing our Face Book posts and if you do social media at all please help the church's presence by liking and sharing the posts where you can.

One other way we are showing what life in Paisley West is like is with our inside outside project where we use craft and art to show what we are celebrating inside and outside the church. I'm sure you enjoyed the fabulous fall of poppies made for remembrance and the garden of poppies at the side of the building. The Christmas angels were very lovely too - even if the weather was unkind to our banners outside. At the moment many are knitting daffodils for the cross at Easter and there will be a display on the cross outside too.

All these things are part of the life of faith that we share at Paisley West as we follow Jesus together and try to show His life in our lives.

As we think our way toward Easter we focus on the work of Jesus and on all that he did and taught. The Lenten journey follows his life as it leads to the cross and the desolation of Good Friday, the silence of Holy Saturday and the joy of resurrection life on Easter morning.

Special services for this are in the pipeline at the moment and I hope we will have good opportunities to celebrate our faith together.

May you know God's blessing now and always

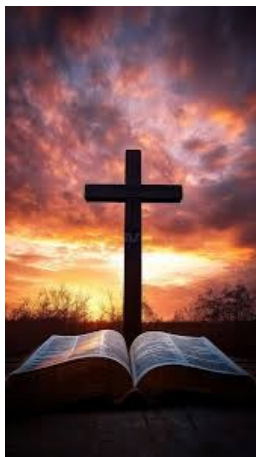
*Sandra*

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*"The building at  
St. Columba*

*sold for  
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## Finance

At the end of the financial year December 2025 our Income from Offerings; Tax Refund; Donations; Fundraising; and Hall Lets was £56,128. Last year it was £57,445, not a great difference. However, our expenditure was £86,265; a Deficit of £30,137. Last year our deficit was £13,194.

On the plus side, we received £21,447 from Edinburgh to reimburse us for the expenditure at the St. Columba building. This has been deducted from the money raised by the sale. We were also refunded £4,692 for the St. Columba insurance policy. We also withdrew £6,940 from the Central Fabric Fund for repairs and maintenance to the Church and manse. This changes the deficit to a surplus of £2,942.

Our greatest expenditure this year has been gas and electricity which has increased by £10,000 this year. The Church of Scotland changed our provider from SSE to Eon-Next and our gas and electric are now around £2000 per month.

The building at St. Columba sold for £280,000, less fees and deductions we will receive £241,498 into the Capital Fund held at Church of Scotland. Hopefully this will enable us to future proof the building to deal with the exorbitant heating costs. We already hold £331,000 in Capital Funds. Any expenditure requires permission from Presbytery and Edinburgh.

Our membership has reduced and most people are not in a position to increase their offerings at this time. The Pastoral Care team have been wonderful in doing some fundraising, for which we are so grateful.

*Mary*

## Inspiring Bible Verses

It is hoped that this will be a regular feature in our newsletter.

Our Minister, Sandra has provided this edition's verse. She writes:

One of the traditions in my family was that a bible was given from grandparent to grandchild and that a verse was written in the bible for encouragement.

My bible came from gran and the verse she wrote was Psalm 121:7 - 8

*The Lord will keep you from all harm — he will watch over your life;  
the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.*

Although I have found many helpful verses in the bible over the years, this one is still special to me and is still a source of encouragement.

## West Word, May Edition

Articles for inclusion the next edition of West Word should be emailed to [newsletter@paisleywest.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@paisleywest.org.uk) by Sunday 27th April 2025.

## Audio, Visuals and Social Media

As part of our Church inside/outside mission goal, you may have noticed that we are using social media to help keep members of the congregation and the wider community informed on local/national/international church life and upcoming social events in the church and local area. We have also been using YouTube to 'Live stream' our Sunday services (these can also be watched again at a more suitable time after the service has finished). You can find our different social media channels listed below. All of these can be found using any internet capable device with a browsing application, such as Google Chrome / Microsoft edge / Apple safari.

- ♦ Facebook – search for Paisley West Church and use the follow button to be linked with the page.
- ♦ YouTube – search for @paisleywestchurch and use subscribe button (this does not cost anything) to get reminders of upcoming live feeds of our services
- ♦ Web page – [www.paisleywest.org.uk](http://www.paisleywest.org.uk) – This page will provide information on our church community, with links to various information and will be updated when new information is available.

Sunday service live streaming – we have a small number of people who help to provide the PowerPoint presentations on the 'big tv's' and to man the microphones and cameras used during the service, if anyone is interested in helping out, please come and have a chat.

*Stephen*

## Pastoral News

After another very successful Christmas Dinner event where the raffle raised £155 for church funds, we began this session with a musical afternoon.

Andrew Lindsay performed a variety of songs which were enjoyed by all.

The wee blether is on every Monday from 10am to 12noon. Come and join the chat and enjoy tea/coffee and biscuits and the occasional fancy cake. We would love you to drop in any Monday – all welcome. See the diary dates on page 4 for forthcoming events.

*Wee blether, oh so Scottish, in a tongue that's rich and free,  
Where the heart of every conversation, is the bond of shared community.  
The clinking of the cups, the stirring of the spoons, a symphony of cheer,  
Echo through the ages, a rhythm that's never out of gear.*

*The West Church stands tall and proud, a silent sentinel of faith,  
Its shadow a comfort, as the townsfolk gather 'neath its wraith.  
Its tower pierces heaven's veil, a beacon to the lost,  
Guiding souls to find their place, no matter what the cost.*

*Linda*



## 8th Paisley Boys' Brigade



New members in all sections are always welcome

Anchor Boys, P1-P3,  
Fridays, 6.30pm-7.45pm

Junior Section, P4-P6,  
Fridays, 6.30pm-7.45pm

Company Sect., P7-18yrs,  
Fridays, 7.45pm-10pm



We are now more than half way through our BB session and we are already starting to look towards our annual Company Inspection and Display on Friday 2nd May.

Our Senior boys are currently working towards their respective awards and all being well we hope to be in a position at our Company Inspection of presenting two Presidents Badges and an amazing, nine Kings Badges.

In addition to our weekly meetings, highlights this session have included the following:

- ♦ Visit of Hoot Owls to Anchors and Juniors;
- ♦ Seniors football trip to watch Accrington v Swindon in FA Cup;
- ♦ All sections trip to Tin Pin Bowling;
- ♦ All sections trip to King's Theatre Panto; and
- ♦ Halloween and Christmas Parties; and
- ♦ Our annual coffee morning which raised a fantastic £840.

The second half of the session will see a number of activities including:

- ♦ Anchors and Junior trip;
- ♦ Kings Badge Candidates attending Completion Course at Carronvale (BBHQ);
- ♦ Juniors and Company attending an adventure weekend at PGL Dalguise.

The adventure continues . . .

*David*

## Diary Dates

- ♦ **Every Sunday:** 11 am Morning Worship
- ♦ **Every Monday:** 10 am - 12 noon Wee Blether
- ♦ **Saturday 15th February:** 2 pm – 4 pm Musical afternoon with the ukulele band
- ♦ **Sunday 2nd March:** Communion Service followed by buffet lunch. All donations to church funds.
- ♦ **Saturday 15th March:** 2 pm – 4 pm Bingo afternoon
- ♦ **Sunday 20th April:** Easter Service followed by two course lunch by the caterers. The cost is £5 with all money donated to church funds
- ♦ **Sunday 27th April:** Deadline for articles for inclusion in next edition of West Word newsletter
- ♦ **Friday 2nd May:** 8th Paisley Boys' Brigade Annual Inspection and Display
- ♦ **Sunday 1st June:** Communion Service followed by buffet lunch. All donations to church funds.

